

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 LOME 00090 111933Z

ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 ARA-06 SAJ-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05 OMB-01 TRSE-00 /079 W

-----111937Z 008634 /53

R 111615Z JAN 77

FM AMEMBASSY LOME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1586

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY ACCRA

AMEMBASSY BAMAKO

AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

AMEMBASSY COTONOU

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA

AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L L O M E 0 0 9 0

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, TO

SUBJECT: FRANCO-AFRICAN DAKAR CONFERENCE

REF: (A) 76 LOME 0249 (NOTAL), (B) 76 LOME 2440, (C) 76 LOME 2593,
(D) 76 LOME 2715, (E) 76 LOME 2849, (F) STATE 002032,

1. PRESIDENT EYADEMA AND HIS SENIOR MILITARY AND
CIVILIAN ADVISORS HAVE EXPRESSED TO EMBASSY ON SEVERAL
OCCASIONS THEIR CONCERN OVER SOVIET-CUBAN PRESENCE IN
AFRICA, ESPECIALLY ANGOLA, MALI AND NIEGHBORING BENIN.

2. RE REGIONAL MILITARY COOPERATION, PRESIDENT EYADEMA
HAS REPORTEDLY RAISED WITH ENTENTE MEMBERS (REF C)
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POSSIBLE TRANSFORMATION THIS FRANCOPHONE POLITICO-
ECONOMIC ORGANIZATION INTO A MILITARY PACT. (EYADEMA
HAS ALSO INTRODUCED THE IDEA OF A "NON-RECOURSE TO
FORCE" TREATY AMONG ECOWAS MEMBERS.)

3. RE STRENGTHENING DEFENSE AND OTHER LINKS WITH
FRANCE, SUCH TIES FIRM AND CONTINUING--DESPITE

ANTI-IMPERIALIST RHETORIC. FRENCH CURRENTLY HAVE 68 MILITARY ADVISORS IN TOGO. TOGOLESE TRAINING SPACES IN FRANCE FOR 1976 WERE 102. TOGO HAS REQUESTED 120 SPACES IN 1977-78. TOGOLESE INCLUDE FIVE PILOTS UNDERGOING JET FIGHTER TRAINING IN FRANCE; TOGO WILL HAVE FIVE FRENCH FOUGA MAGISTER AIRCRAFT AND THREE BRAZILIAN-MANUFACTURED ITALIAN MACCHI AIRCRAFT BY END OF 1977. TOGO ALSO NOW HAS TWO FRENCH PATROL CRAFT, UNDER FRENCH COMMAND, WITH MIXED FRENCH-TOGOLESE CREWS.

4. IN SUM, TOGOLESE LEADERS ARE KEENLY AWARE PROBLEM OF OFFSETTING SOVIET INFLUENCE. BASICALLY THEY APPEAR TO CONCEIVE THE PROBLEM TO BE ONE ESSENTIALLY OF CONTINUING MOMENTUM OF POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT. THIS MEANS CONTINUED ASSOCIATION WITH FRANCE, EUROPE AND, THEY HOPE, INCREASED POLITICAL, TRADE, INVESTMENT AND ASSISTANCE TIES WITH THE UNITED STATES (REF E). MEANWHILE, TOGO IS TAKING SUCH MEASURES AS IT CAN TO DEVELOP ITS NATIONAL DEFENSE CAPABILITY--WITH FRENCH ASSISTANCE; AND TOGO ALSO HAS SOUGHT TO TAKE THE LEAD IN ENCOURAGING BOTH THE CONCEPT OF REGIONAL MILITARY COOPERATION AND AN ANGLOPHONE/FRANCOPHONE TREATY OF NON-RECOURSE TO FORCE.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: COLLECTIVE SECURITY, ECONOMIC COOPERATION, REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 11-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977LOME00090
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770010-0946
Format: TEL
From: LOME
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770163/aaaacdkn.tel
Line Count: 88
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 5a1a2fdb-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 LOME 249, 76 LOME 2440, 76 LOME 2593, 76 LOME 2715, 76 LOME 2849, 77 STATE 2032
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3626733
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FRANCO-AFRICAN DAKAR CONFERENCE
TAGS: PFOR, TO, SG, (EYADEMA, GNASSINGBE)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/5a1a2fdb-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009